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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, PACIFIC
OFFICE OF THE THEATER JUDGE ADVOCATE
WAR CRIMES BRANCH

APC 500
17 October 1945

MEMORANDUM TO: Prosecution Section (Report # 75)
THRU: Executive Officer, War Crimes Branch
SUBJECT: Offenses Committed by the Japanese at
Camp O'Donnell.

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II. SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE:

Over nine thousand American and about forty-seven thousand Filipino prisoners of war were imprisoned in Camp O'Donnell, and all had surrendered on 9 April 1942 upon the capitulation of the American Forces on Bataan (R 6, 39). Many of them had made the so-called "Death March" from Bataan to San Fernando and thence on to Camp O'Donnell (R 20, 88, 192). As a result of this trip and the privations they had endured just prior to their surrender, all of the prisoners reached Camp O'Donnell in a state of exhaustion (R 8, 38). Upon arrival at the camp, the prisoners were searched, and some were killed by the Japanese when found to possess Japanese money or souvenirs (21, 37, 38, 105, 112, 161, 163). Other groups of American and Filipino prisoners of war were executed (R 24, 129, 196), or taken from camp under guard and never heard of again (R 7).

Most of the deaths in Camp O'Donnell were due to dysentery and malaria coupled with malnutrition, and many of these deaths could have been prevented had the Japanese furnished adequate food, shelter, clothing, water, sanitation facilities, and medicine and hospital care (R 1, 7, 8, 17, 27, 91, 117, 155, 181). The quarters provided for the prisoners were overcrowded and inadequate to protect them from the weather (R 27, 109, 142, 173). Only open latrines of the "straddle trench" type were available, but many of the prisoners were too weak from illness to use them, and flies and filth were everywhere (R 54, 81). No screens were provided for the kitchen and food was contaminated by flies from the open latrines (R 54, 134). Food was inadequate, consisting only of a bowl of rice sprinkled with salt, camotes, with occasionally a little watery soup made from greens (R 1, 109), but this was later increased until the men began to gain a little weight (R 17). The death rate mounted to

nearly sixty per day during the first two months of imprisonment (R 27). During the first few months at Camp O'Donnell the prisoners were not allowed to use water for bathing, and conditions in the hospital were most unsanitary due to the inability of the patients to move to the latrines. There were no beds nor bedding, and the patients were crowded on the floor and under the building, with no protection from insects, flies, and the weather (R 54, 96, 99, 109, 110, 134, 158). Repeated requests for medicine and hospital equipment were refused (R 38, 133). More than fifteen hundred American prisoners of war died in Camp O'Donnell between the period 18 April 1942 to December 1942 (Ex. D); and approximately twenty-six thousand Filipino prisoners died during that period (R 9, 209).

American and Filipino prisoners were forced to stand in the hot sun without hats for many hours for minor violations of prison regulations (R 3). Others were beaten with rifles, scabbards, and bamboo poles when they fell, exhausted, while at work (R 88, 119). Beatings of the prisoners on work details by the Japanese guards, with bayonets, clubs, and pick handles were common occurrences (R 100, 121).

Many of the prisoners were forced to bury the dead, build fences, and dig latrines, though they were physically unfit to perform such labor because of illness and malnutrition (R 89, 91, 119, 129, 181).

Upon arrival at Camp O'Donnell, the prisoners were forced to place all their personal belongings on their blankets, and the Japanese confiscated all money, jewelry, watches, and equipment including medical supplies, although some of the officers were allowed to keep a blanket (R 36, 91, 114, 133, 195).

The prisoners were required to bury their own dead in graves containing twelve to sixty bodies each, without regard to proper identification of the graves or positions of the bodies (R 3, 4, 84, 148). Sixty-five who died were listed as unknown (Ex. D). On some occasions they were forced to bury men who were still alive (R 24, 129). Frequently the Japanese would not grant permission to bury the dead, and bodies were left exposed to the sun for two or three days at a time before permission was granted to bury them (R 3, 54, 78).

On several occasions representatives of the Red Cross and other charitable organizations attempted to bring medicine and supplies to alleviate the condition of the prisoners, but they were turned away at the entrance to the camp (R 9, 27, 38, 55). When supplies were allowed to be brought in by charitable organizations, the Japanese confiscated much of it for their own use and only allowed the prisoners to have what was left (R 8, 38, 39).

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太平洋方面米國陸軍總司令部

方面法務官事務局戦争犯罪文部

陸軍郵便局五〇〇

一九四五年十月十七日

宛先———檢察部（報告第七五號）

經由———戦争犯罪文部行政官

題目———「オードンネル」俘虜收容所ニ於イテ
日本人ニ依リ侵サレタル犯罪

二、證據ノ概要

九千名以上ノ米人俘虜及ビ約四萬七千名ノ比律賓人
俘虜ガ「オードンネル」收容所ニ監禁サレテキタ。
而シテ凡テハ「バタアン」ニ於ケル米軍ノ開城ニ基
キ一九四二年四月九日ニ降服シタモノデアル（R
六、三九）。彼等ノ多クハ「バタアン」ヨリ「サンフ
エルナンド」ヘ又更ラニ夫レヨリ「オードンネル」
收容所ニ向ツテ所謂「死ノ行進」ヲシタモノデアル（
R二〇、八八、一九二）。
此ノ行進並ビニ彼等ノ降服直前ノ忍苦缺乏ノ結果全
部ノ俘虜ハ氣息奄々タル状態ニテ「オードンネル」
收容所ニ到着シタ（R八、三八）。其ノ收容所ニ到着
ノ上俘虜選ハ取調ヲ受ケ或ル者ハ日本貨幣若シクハ
記念品ヲ所持スルコトヲ發見セラレテ日本人ニ依リ
殺害サレタ（二一、三七、三八、一〇五、一一二、
一六一、一六三）。
米、比人俘虜ノ他ノ國体ハ斬首セラレ（R二四、一
二九、一九六）或ハ警護ノ下ニ收容所ヨリ連行サレ

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再ビト消息ハナカツタ (R 七)。

「オードンネル」收容所ニ於ケル死亡ノ多クハ栄養不良ニ伴フ赤痢及ビ「マラリア」ノ爲メデアツタ。而シテ之等死亡者ノ多クハ若シ日本人ガ充分ナル食物、住宅、被服、水、衛生設備及ビ藥劑並ビニ病院ノ施設ヲ與ヘタナラバ防止スルコトガ出來タノデアル (R 一、七、八、一七、二七、九一、一一七、一五五、一八一)。俘虜ニ與ヘラレタル宿舍ハ餘リニモ人員ヲ入レ過ギタモノデアツテ彼等ヲ天候ヨリ保護スルニ不適當デアツタ (R 二七、一〇九、一四二、一七三)。唯「跨溝」式無蓋ノ便所ガアツタノデアルガ俘虜ノ多クハ病氣ノ爲メ衰弱シテ居テ夫等ノ便所ヲ使用スル事ガ出來ナカツタ。而シテ蠅ト汚物ハ至ル所ニ在ツタ (R 五四、八一)。炊事場ノ爲ニ金網ガ準備サレズ食物ハ無蓋ノ便所ヨリ來ル蠅ニ依リ汚サレタ (R 五四、一三四)。食物ハ不充分テ鹽ト「力モト」ヲ振リカケタ唯一碗ノ飯丈ケテタマニ野菜ヲ作ツタ小量ノ薄イ「吸物」ガ附イタ (R 一、一〇九)。然シ之レハ後日増量サレテ俘虜達ハ稍體重ヲ増ス様ニナツタ (R 一七)。死亡卒ハ監禁ノ最初ノ二ヶ月間ニ毎日約六十人ニ昇ツタ (R 二七)。「オードンネル」收容所ニ於テ最初ノ數月間俘虜ハ水浴ノ爲メニ水ヲ使用スルコトラ許サレナカツタ而シテ病院ニ於ケル

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状態ハ患者ガ便所ニ身ヲ廻アコト不能ナリシ爲メ極メテ非衛生的デアツタ。

其所ニハ寢臺モ寢具モ無ク患者ハ昆蟲、^蠅及ビ天候ニ對スル防護無シニ床上及ビ建物ノ下ニ^結メ込ンデキタ。(R 五四、九六、九九、一〇九、一一〇、一三四、一五八)繰返シテ藥品及ビ病院設備ニ對スル要求ラシタガ拒否サレタ(R 三八、一三三)。千五百名以上ノ米人俘虜ハ一九四二年四月十八日ヨリ一九四二年十二月ニ至ル期間中ニ「オードンネル」收容所内ニ於テ死亡シ(R X、D)而シテ約二萬六千名ノ比律賓人俘虜ハ其ノ期間中ニ死亡シタ(R 九、二〇九)。

米、比人俘虜ハ俘虜規程ノ監細ナル侵犯ニ對シテ長時間帽子ヲ被ラスニ炎天ノ下ニ立ツコトヲ強要サレタ(R 三)。他ノ者ハ勞役中疲レ果テテ、倒レタ時銃、刀劍ノ鞘及ビ竹棒ヲ以テ打タレタ(R 八八、一一九)、銃劍棍棒及ビ鶴嘴ノ柄ヲ以テ日本ノ衛兵ニ依リ勞役中ノ俘虜ガ打擲サレタ事ハ日常ノ出來事デアツタ(R 一〇〇、一二一)。

多クノ俘虜ハ彼等ガ病氣デ且ツ栄養不良ノ爲メ斯カル勞働ヲスルノニ肉体的ニ不適當ナルニ拘ハラズ死人ヲ埋メタリ柵壁ヲ造ツタリ、便所^ヲ堀ツタリスルコトヲ強要サレタ(R 八九、九一、一一九、一二九)。

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